

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A method for billing users in a service provider environment comprising the steps of:
- (a) assigning a weight to each of at least one webserver function;
 - (b) identifying a user;
 - (c) identifying from a file at least one function accessed by the user;
 - (d) determining a number of uses of the function accessed by the user; and
 - (e) determining an amount of usage by combining the number of uses of the function accessed by the user with the weight assigned to that function.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the step of determining the amount of usage comprises the step of multiplying the number of uses of the function accessed by the user by the weight assigned to that function.
3. The method of claim 2, further comprising the step determining a total amount of usage for the user by summing amounts of usage.
4. The method of claim 1 wherein the file is a webserver function log file.
5. The method of claim 1 wherein the file is a user log file.
6. A system for billing a user in a service provider environment, wherein said system comprises:
- (a) a function weight that is assigned to each of at least one function
 - (b) a user identification;
 - (c) at least one function that is accessed by the user from a file;
 - (d) a number of uses of the function accessed by the user; and
 - (e) an amount of usage of the user that is determined by combining the number of uses of the function accessed by the user with the weight assigned to that function.
7. The system of claim 6, wherein the amount of usage is determined by multiplying the number of uses of the function by the weight assigned to that function.
8. The system of claim 6, further comprising a total amount of usage for the user by summing amounts of usage.

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9. The system of claim 6 wherein the file is a webserver function log file.
 10. The system of claim 6 wherein the file is a user log file.
 11. An article for billing a user in a service provider environment comprising:
a computer-readable signal-bearing medium;
means in the medium for assigning a weight to a function;
means in the medium for identifying at least one function that is accessed by the user from a file;
means in the medium for determining a number of uses of the function accessed by the user assigned to that function; and
means in the medium for determining a usage amount by combining the number of uses of each function by the weight assigned to that function.
 12. The article of claim 11 wherein the amount of usage is determined by multiplying the number of uses of the function by the weight assigned to that function.
 13. The article of claim 11 further comprising means for determining a total amount of usage for the user by summing usage amounts.
 14. The article of claim 11 wherein the file is a webserver function file.
 15. The article of claim 11 wherein the file is a user log file.
 16. The article of claim 11, wherein the medium is a recordable data storage medium.
 17. The article of claim 11, wherein the medium is a modulated carrier signal.